

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George at 11 a.m. on Thursday the 23rd March 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

## I

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

*Enhancement of certain fees.*

1385 Q.—Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the opinion of the Judges of the High Court has been obtained by the Government with regard to the enhancement in the fees for entry as Advocate, Vakil or Attorney, as proposed in article 25 of Schedule I-A to the Bill to amend the Indian Stamp Act; and

(b) if so, what opinion the Judges of the High Court have expressed with regard to this matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government are not prepared to publish the opinion of the Judges of the High Court in the matter as they were consulted unofficially.

*Stocking of tin plate.*

1386 Q.—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: With reference to the statement in the last Administration Report of the Fisheries Department, that a large quantity of tin plate costing about Rs. 15,000 had been purchased owing to depletion of stock and that the quality and the packing condition of this tin plate were thoroughly unsatisfactory, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(1) why, if the stock was depleted and the price was heavy, a smaller quantity was not obtained;

(2) whether it is a fact that the purchase of this consignment was arranged by Mr. Hornell when he was in England;

(3) if so, how he accounts for the inferior quality;

(4) whether he compared the prices charged by other manufacturers and obtained sanction of the Government before the purchase was made;

(5) in how many years this large consignment of tin plate will be used up by the cannery, taking the average consumption of the last five years;

(6) what was the largest quantity of tin plate purchased in a single consignment by Sir Frederick Nicholson when the cannery was under his control;

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(7) whether it is a fact that he purchased only smaller quantities as it took only two or three months to get fresh consignments from Europe, and also because tin sheets became rusty in the moist climate of Malabar, and hence large stocks were difficult to keep; and

(8) whether the present Director and the Manager were ignorant of these facts?

4.—(1) The depletion of stock was not with the manufacturers as the hon. Member's question seems to imply but at the cannery. The quantities purchased during previous years varied between 95 and 175 boxes, but in the year 1920, 206 boxes, a somewhat larger quantity than usual, were purchased as—

(a) provision had to be made for a longer time ahead than usual owing to the uncertainties of delivery and shipment that prevailed at the time and

(b) a greatly increased output was hoped for in the ensuing season.

(2) No.

(3) & (4) These questions do not arise.

(5) The stock now on hand is 90 cases. It will last only about three months, fish being available.

(6) 175 cases.

(7) & (8) The hon. Member is referred to clause (1) above. Sir Frederick Nicholson was accustomed to purchase stock estimated to last for not more than one season and the same consideration guided the computation of the quantity indented for in 1920. Tin sheets do not become rusty in Malabar when stored with ordinary precautions.

## II

### DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

#### DEMAND XVI—EDUCATION (NON-EUROPEAN)—*cont.*

The Council then resumed consideration of the budget for 1922–23.

#### *Motion 530.*

MR. A. T. PALMER :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to make the following motion :—

530. *To omit the allotment of Rs. 25,000 for the employment of medical inspectors.*

“ Sir, the introduction of medical inspection of our young people who attend schools is a step in the right direction, and, I am sure if the parents of these students only co-operate with the schools a great deal can be done to save the life of many a promising youth. The medical inspection of schools is as follows. The department has arranged that each student should have a sheet on which are printed different columns denoting different ailments. There is also a column for the previous history of the student. The student is examined, if I am not mistaken, three times during his school course, once when he enters the school, then when he enters into the fourth form, and lastly when he leaves the school, and if it is necessary he is examined oftener. When he is to leave one school and go to another he carries this chart along with him.